

We claim:

- [C1]** A bicycle wheel comprising:
- a rim with a tire well, spoke bed and brake walls;
 - a tire received in said rim;
 - said tire well having outwardly extending hook bead flanges to receive a pair of tire beads;
 - said tire well includes a recessed center channel;
 - a full width rim strip extends from an edge upstanding against one of the flanges, across the entire tire well, including said recessed channel, to the opposite flange, said rim strip terminating in an edge upstanding against the opposite flange;
 - said rim strip having integral raised circumferential ridges to aid in sealing a tubeless tire;
 - a removable valve having a barrel, an enlarged end and a fastener for fixing and sealing said valve in said tire well and against said rim strip;
 - wherein said wheel is adapted to use with both tubeless and standard, tubed bicycle tires;
 - said wheel has a tubeless tire;
 - said tire is formed with a casing and a tread;
 - said tire has beads adapted to be mechanically and sealingly retained against said hook beads and rim strip;
 - said tire is formed without a separate sealing layer;

said tire is sealed and rendered substantially air impermeable by the introduction of a viscous sealing compound prior to inflation;

said rim strip is formed of a plastic material being air impermeable and resilient so as to promote a mechanical seal with said valve and with said tire beads;

said wheel formed as a tubeless ready kit comprising a rim, tubeless bead tire, insertable and removable valve and a removable inner tube.

[C2]

A bicycle wheel comprising:

a rim with a tire well, spoke bed and brake walls;

a tire received in said rim;

said tire well having outwardly extending hook bead flanges to receive a pair of tire beads;

said tire well includes a recessed center channel;

a full width rim strip extends from an edge upstanding against one of the flanges, across the entire tire well, including said recessed channel, to the opposite flange, said rim strip terminating in an edge upstanding against the opposite flange;

said rim strip having integral raised circumferential ridges to aid in sealing a tubeless tire;

a removable valve having a barrel, an enlarged end and a fastener for fixing and sealing said valve in said tire well and against said rim strip;

wherein said wheel is adapted to use with both tubeless and standard, tubed bicycle tires.

[C3]

The wheel of claim 2 further comprising:

said wheel has a tubeless tire;

said tire is formed with a casing and a tread;

said tire has beads adapted to be mechanically and sealingly retained against

said hook beads and rim strip;

said tire is formed without a separate sealing layer.

[C4] The wheel of claim 2 further comprising:

said tire is sealed and rendered substantially air impermeable by the introduction of a viscous sealing compound prior to inflation.

[C5] The wheel of claim 2 further comprising:

said rim strip is formed of a plastic material being air impermeable and resilient so as to promote a mechanical seal with said valve and with said tire beads.

[C6] The wheel of claim 2 further comprising:

said wheel formed as a tubeless ready kit comprising a rim, tubeless bead tire, insertable and removable valve and a removable inner tube.

[C7] A method of shipping, storing and servicing bicycle wheels comprising:

(a) forming a bicycle wheel kit of a rim with a tire well with a recessed center channel, a spoke bed and brake walls, a tire received in said rim, tire bead receiving flanges, a full width rim strip extends from an edge upstanding against one of the flanges, across the entire tire well, including said recessed channel, to the opposite flange, said rim strip terminating in an edge upstanding against the opposite flange and said rim strip having integral raised circumferential ridges to aid in sealing a tubeless tire and a removable valve having a barrel, an enlarged end and a fastener for

fixing and sealing said valve in said tire well and against said rim strip, said removable valve being shipped with said wheel in an uninserted state;

(b) mounting an inner tube and a tubeless tire on said wheel, in which said tubeless tire is formed with a casing, a tread, and beads adapted to be mechanically and sealingly retained against said hook beads and rim strip, said tire being formed without a separate sealing layer;

(c) (d) inflating said inner tube;

(e) shipping and storing said wheel maintaining a state of inflation;

(f) deflating and removing said inner tube;

(g) inserting and sealing said valve;

(i) introducing a viscous sealing compound into said rim and tire combination prior to inflation so that said tire is sealed and rendered substantially air impermeable.